## PANDEMIC INFLUENZA



# UTAH PREPARES FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION

#### **BE INFORMED:**

- Listen for pandemic influenza updates on TV or radio.
- Pandemic influenza may be very different than regular influenza.
  - o More people may get sick.
  - People may have very severe illness.
  - o Currently, there is no vaccine for pandemic influenza.
- A pandemic may change the way we live our lives.
  - People who are sick may be required to stay home.
  - Schools and daycare may be closed to prevent the spread of disease.
  - Social gatherings (such as church or other events) may be cancelled.

#### HAVE A PLAN:

- Make an emergency communication plan with the key members of your organization.
- Find other ways to provide services in the event that social gatherings are suspended.
- Stock up on disposable tissues and alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Identify members of the congregation who may have special needs and work with them to ensure their needs will be met.
- Encourage members to prepare their families for a pandemic influenza.
   Such as stockpile alcohol-based sanitizer and tissues, and get flu shots when available.

### TALK TO YOUR PEOPLE:

- Tell congregation members to listen and watch for public health officials with information on pandemic influenza.
- When appropriate discuss pandemic influenza in lessons or discussions.
- Distribute materials with information on pandemic influenza, including mode of transmission and prevention methods.

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